

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/824,709

Applicant(s)

KABUNE ET AL.

Examiner

Art Unit

Paul B. Yanchus

2116

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to telephone interview on 3/13/06.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 3 and 7.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date <u>03/14/06</u> . |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

This office action is in response to the telephone interview on 03/13/06.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 3 and 7 are allowed.

Claims 3 and 7 have been renumbered to 1 and 2.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments in the appeal brief filed on 12/22/05, with respect to claims 3 and 7 have been fully considered and are persuasive. The rejection of claims 3 and 7 has been withdrawn.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment of record appears below. Should changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

The application has been amended as follows:

1. Please cancel claims 1, 2 and 6.
2. Please amend claim 3 to read:

An electronic control apparatus comprising:

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a plurality of power source circuits providing a plurality of power sources of a plurality of different voltages; and

a microcomputer,

wherein any one of the plurality of power sources is used as a power source of the microcomputer,

wherein the microcomputer is reset immediately when it is detected that any one of the plurality of power sources is not set to a voltage in respective specified ranges by checking whether the plurality of power sources are respectively set to the voltages in the specified ranges,

the microcomputer has a CPU, a peripheral circuit, an analog-digital converting unit, a reset control unit and an oscillation circuit;

the power source circuits have a first power output circuit outputting a first voltage that is applied to the peripheral circuit and the analog-digital converting unit, and a second power output circuit outputting a second voltage that is lower than the first voltage and applied to the reset control unit, the oscillation circuit and the CPU;

a first voltage abnormality detecting circuit is provided for detecting that the first voltage is lower than a specified voltage thereof;

a second voltage abnormality detecting circuit is provided for detecting that the second voltage is lower than a specified voltage;

the microcomputer is reset immediately when any one of the first voltage and the second voltage is detected to be lower than the first specified voltage and the second specified voltage by any one of the first and second abnormality detecting circuits,

wherein:

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a first current abnormality detecting unit is provided for detecting that a current flowing into the first power output circuit is outside a first specified range; and

a second current abnormality detecting unit is provided for detecting that a current flowing into the second power output circuit is outside a second specified range,

wherein the microcomputer is reset immediately when any one of the currents flowing into the first power output circuit and the second power output circuit is detected as being outside the first specified range and the second specified range by any one of the first current abnormality detecting circuit and the second current abnormality detecting circuit.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Paul B. Yanchus whose telephone number is (571) 272-3678.


The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Thurs 8:00-6:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Lynne H. Browne can be reached on (571) 272-3670. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Paul Yanchus
March 14, 2006


LYNNE H. BROWNE
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100